

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00
DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00 TRSE-00 TAR-01
L-03 /034 W

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P 101656Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7892

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 36631

FOR DEPT AND CAB

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: EAIR, PK, US, FR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: ALLEGED REBATING BY PAKISTAN
INTERNATIONAL AIRLINES

REF: STATE 266129

1. SUMMARY. PANAM PREPARED PURCHASE NEW DISCOUNTED
TEST TICKET FOR USE ON PIA FLIGHT ARRIVING NEW YORK
DECEMBER 18. ACTION REQUESTED: CAB CONFIRMATION
IT PREPARED MEET THAT FLIGHT AND INDICATION WHETHER
WAIVER CAN BE GRANTED PERMITTING NO-FARE TRANSPORTATION
PASSENGER BACK TO PARIS. END SUMMARY.

2. PANAM REP ACCOMPANIED BY PIERQUET, PARIS-BASED
IATA ENFORCEMENT OFFICER, CALLED AT EMBASSY TO DISCUSS
FOLLOW-UP IN LIGHT CAB'S INTEREST (REFTEL) IN
EVIDENCING PIA DISCOUNTING ON NORTH ATLANTIC. PANAM
IS PREPARED BUY NEW TEST TICKET WHICH IT PROPOSES BE
USED FOR PASSAGE ON PIA FLIGHT NO. 711 DEPARTING PARIS AT
4:15 PM LOCAL TIME AND ARRIVING NEW YORK AT 6:15 PM
LOCAL TIME ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18 REPEAT 18.
TRAVELER WILL BE FRENCH NATIONAL BERNARD MERY, YOUNG
PARIS LAWYER KNOWN TO PANAM WHO SPEAKS GOOD ENGLISH.

3. PANAM IS ALERTED TO NEED PROVIDE FULL INFORMATION
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REQUESTED REFTEL, WHICH WILL BE DOCUMENTED BY

DETAILED AFFADAVITS AS REGARDS CONDITIONS OF
PURCHASE, MODE OF PAYMENT, ETC. WE WILL POUCH
THESE FOR CAB USE AS SOON AS AVAILABLE.

4. PIERQUET IS PREPARED RECOMMEND THAT IATA TAKE
ACTION AGAINST WELL-KNOWN PARIS TRAVEL AGENCY AT
WHICH PREVIOUS DISCOUNTED TICKET WAS PURCHASED THAT
WAS SUBJECT OF PARIS 27870 . AGENCY IS AN IATA-
AFFILIATED ONE. PANAM INTENDS PURCHASE TEST TICKET
TO BE USED FOR DECEMBER 18 TRAVEL AT A DIFFERENT
AGENCY.

5. QUESTION AROSE OF WHETHER DGAC SHOULD BE
ALERTED AT THIS STAGE, E.G., IN ORDER TO DOCUMENT
ACCEPTANCE OF DISCOUNTED PIA TICKET ON DEPARTURE
AT ORLY AIRPORT. WE RECOMMENDED AGAINST THIS ON
GROUNDS THAT NEWLY CREATED ENFORCEMENT STAFF AT DGAC
WOULD BECOME OPERATIVE ONLY EARLY NEXT YEAR AND FACT
THAT AIR FRANCE HANDLED CHECK-IN FOR PIA AT ORLY
WOULD RISK POSSIBILITY OF LAST-MINUTE LEAK THAT
COULD COMPROMISE THE OPERATION IF TOO MANY PERSONS
WERE PRIVY TO THE DETAILS. ANYWAY, ARRIVAL OF
PASSENGER AT JFK WOULD OBVIOUSLY EVIDENCE FACT FLIGHT
COUPON HAD BEEN USED. PANAM REP AND PIERQUET
CONCURRED.

6. SINCE PANAM IS FINANCING PURCHASE OF TEST
TICKET FOR PARIS-NEW YORK TRAVEL, PANAM WOULD

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LIKE TO BE SPARED THE EXPENSE OF BRINGING MERY BACK TO PARIS AND SO ASKED WHETHER CAB MIGHT BE DISPOSED GRANT WAIVER PERMITTING FREE PASSAGE ON RETURN FLIGHT. WE ASKED WHETHER TEST TICKET MIGHT NOT BE USED BY SOME OTHER PERSON KNOWN TO PANAM WHO WOULD BE RETURNING TO US ANYWAY OR NORMAL BUSINESS TRAVELER WHO MIGHT APPRECIATE HAVING AT LEAST ONE LEG OF JOURNEY PAID FOR BY PANAM. PANAM REP DISMISSED SUCH AD HOC ALTERNATIVES AS IMPRACTICAL.

7. WE THANKED PANAM REP AND PIERQUET FOR THEIR COOPERATION AND SAID WE WOULD NOTIFY CAB WHICH HAD ALREADY INDICATED READINESS TO MEET FLIGHT AND INTERVIEW PASSENGERS.

8. ACTION REQUESTED: CAB IS REQUESTED CONFIRM TO EMBASSY SOONEST (A) THAT CAB REPS WILL MEET PIA FLIGHT 711 ON DECEMBER 18 WHEREUPON PANAM WILL FIRM UP ARRANGEMENTS AT THIS END, AND (B) WHETHER WAIVER CAN BE GRANTED AUTHORIZING GRATIS TRANSPORTATION OF MERY ON US CARRIER FOR RETURN FLIGHT TO PARIS.

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